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November 15, 1983

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Dr. Robert L. Brunelle, Commissioner Department of Education 410 State House Annex Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Dear Dr. Brunelle:

You have requested this office's advice regarding the determination of the wage scale which would be applied to the presidents of the vocational-technical colleges and the technical institute. In a previous opinion relating to the reorganization of the Department of Postsecondary Vocational-Technical Education we concluded that under the reorganization bill the presidents were unclassified employees. However, the bill itself did not assign the presidents to a class in the unclassified system.

You have now asked us to determine what wage scale should be applied to the presidents. Because the reorganization bill did not designate a wage scale, the wage scale must be determined by reference to the appropriations transferred to the new Department of Postsecondary Vocational-Technical Education, effective January 1, 1984. The budget for the Department includes the salaries of the current directors in Class 10 accounts. No other account is established

¹See, Chapter 469, 1983 Operating Budget, Department of Education Budget, pp. 214, 271.

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to pay these salaries. Although Class 10 applies to classified employees, which the directors remain until January 1, 1984, the money budgeted to Class 10 for the directors' salaries should be paid to the presidents since no other funds have been budgeted for their salaries. For this reason, the current wage scale applied to the directors should be paid to the presidents throughout the remainder of this biennium.

Very truly yours,

Leslie J. Ludtke

Assistant Attorney General Division of Legal Counsel

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